

Appl. No. 09/806,886
Reply to Office Action of February 18, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Please cancel Claims 2 and 5 without prejudice. Claims 1, 6 - 7, and 9 - 11 are now in the case. Claim 1 has been amended to recite parameters originally appearing in Claims 2 and 5. Additionally, Claim 1 has been amended to more specifically define the foaming component. Support for this amendment is found on page 6, line 10. It is submitted that there is full support for all amendments and entry is requested.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC § 103

Claims 1 - 2, 5 - 6, and 9 - 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over WO 97/17939 published in the name of Steventon et al. (hereinafter "Steventon") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,804,544 issued to Powell et al. (hereinafter "Powell"), and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,652,392 issued to Baginski et al. (hereinafter "Baginski") for the reasons of record stated on page 3 and 4 of the Office Action.

Claims 1 - 2, 5 - 6, and 9 - 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over WO 93/01269 published in the name of Akay et al. (hereinafter "Akay") in view of Powell, and in further view of Baginski.

The rejection as far as it relates to Claims 2 and 5 are now moot as these claims are cancelled herewith without prejudice. Claim 1 has been amended to further define Applicants' invention. Neither Steventon in view of Powell and Baginski nor Akay in view of Powell and Baginski teach either expressly or impliedly Applicants' claimed invention. Hence, the claims are unobvious over the cited references.

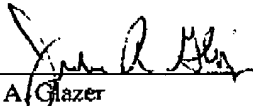
In light of the amendments to the claims and the above remarks, it is requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all rejections. Early and favorable action in the case is respectfully requested.

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SUMMARY

Claims 2 and 5 are cancelled herewith without prejudice. As the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) have been overcome, the claims are now in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that the

Respectfully submitted,
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